Message Text

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R 270954Z JUN 78 FM AMCONSUL MUNICH TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0523 AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SHAM, HU, RO

SUBJECT: "FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU" ARTICLE ON GYULA ILLYES

- 1. RFE MANAGEMENT HAS CALLED CONGEN'S ATTENTION TO JUNE 26 "FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU" ARTICLE BY HARRY SCHLEICHER ENTITLED "GYULA ILLYES AND THE HUNGARIAN NATION." ARTICLE DEALS LARGELY WITH ILLYES' VIEWS ON SITUATION OF HUNGARIAN MINORITIES, PARTICULARLY ROMANIA'S ETHNIC MAGYARS.
- 2. ALTHOUGH NOT RPT NOT AN INTERVIEW IN THE STRICT SENSE OF THE TERM, SCHLEICHER'S ARTICLE CARRIES WHAT PURPORT TO BE DIRECT ILLYES QUOTES ON EFFECT OF ROMANIAN SCHOOL TEXTBOOK POLICY ON ETHNIC MAGYARS IN TRANSLYVANIA AND POSSIBILITY OF GRANTING AUTONOMY TO ROMANIA'S ETHNIC MAGYARS. ON SUBJECT OF TEXTBOOKS ILLYES ASKS HOW A HUNGARIAN TEACHER SHOULD TEACH (TRANSYLVANIAN) HUNGARIAN CHILDREN FROM ROMANIAN TEXTBOOKS WHICH STATE THAT THE CHILDREN'S FORBEARS "CAME TO THE LAND OF THEIR FATHERS AS BARBARIAN INTRUDERS." ILLYES IS ALSO QUOTED AS ASKING RHETORICALLY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND PENSIVELY, WHY THE "LARGEST NATIONAL MINORITY IN EUROPE" (E.G. ROMANIA'S ETHNIC MAGYARS) SHOULD NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO AUTONOMY, ESPECIALLY WHERE TWO NEIGHBORING SOCIALIST STATES ARE INVOLVED.

3. COPIES OF ARTICLE ARE BEING POUCHED TO BUDAPEST (WILGIS) AND BUCHAREST (SIMONS). BETTS

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